

HEALTH AND SANITATION PROGRAM

Exchange of notes at México June 30 and July 1, 1943

Entered into force July 1, 1943

Modified by agreements of December 8, 1943;¹ February 10 and 14, 1949;² October 7 and 14, 1949;³ September 20 and November 23, 1950;⁴ January 31 and May 15, 1952;⁵ December 15, 1952, and February 25, 1953;⁶ March 5, 1953;⁶ and January 26 and February 24, 1954⁶

Extended by agreements of December 8, 1943;¹ February 10 and 14, 1949;² October 7 and 14, 1949;³ and September 20 and November 23, 1950⁴

Expired June 30, 1955

57 Stat. 1121; Executive Agreement Series 347

The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
México, D.F., June 30, 1943

No. 1426

EXCELLENCY:

Your Excellency will recall that the representatives of the twenty-one American Republics at the Third Consultative Conference held in Rio de Janeiro in January, 1942, adopted Resolution No. 30⁷ recommending that health and sanitation problems of the Western Hemisphere be resolved—so far as possible—by means of bi-lateral or multi-lateral agreements of an international character.

This Resolution, to which our Governments gave decided support, is significant evidence of the importance which the American Republics attribute to collaboration as the most effective method of resolving problems of common interest.

Of singular importance among these problems, especially in the case of neighboring countries, are those referred to in the Rio de Janeiro Resolution just mentioned, since it is evident that health and sanitary conditions must necessarily affect both Republics.

¹ TIAS 2063, *post*, p. 1158.

² TIAS 2091, *post*, p. 1244.

³ TIAS 2120, *post*, p. 1268.

⁴ 2 UST 484; TIAS 2197.

⁵ 3 UST 4276; TIAS 2573.

⁶ Not printed.

⁷ For text, see *Department of State Bulletin*, Feb. 7, 1942, p. 137.

Fortunately the relations between the United States and Mexico are characterized by a sincere cordiality and by well-defined purposes of cooperation, evidenced, among other manifestations, by the authorization which Mexico has given for workers of Mexican nationality to render service in various states of the United States during the present emergency.

It therefore appears natural that there should be added to this cooperation that other so wisely foreseen by the Republics of this Continent, especially since the tasks to be undertaken are of a long-term nature and cannot be resolved in the course of a few years alone.

In view of the foregoing, I take pleasure in informing Your Excellency that my Government is prepared to collaborate with that of Your Excellency, in a program looking to the development of health and sanitary conditions in Mexico. To this end, it is prepared to supply an amount of Two million five hundred thousand dollars, to be expended, together with the sums which the Mexican Government may set aside and disburse as its equitable contribution to this enterprise, in the extension and maintenance of the services and of the measures of a sanitary nature, which the dependencies of the Government of Mexico have so efficiently been conducting.

From the conversations held on this subject, my Government has gained the impression that the Government of Your Excellency would be principally interested in the inclusion in this program of health and sanitation, work along the Pan American Highway, as well as the intensification of control and treatment of disease, and the establishment or extension of those public works related therewith which may tend to improve sanitary conditions of the country.

I am authorized to state that my Government, acting through the intermediary of the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, if acceptable to the Government of Your Excellency, shall send a small group of technicians to Mexico for the purpose of developing a specific program in full collaboration with the Government of Your Excellency, acting through the officials which it may designate for this purpose. This group would be under the immediate direction of a principal physician, to be known as Chief of the Field Party, and who would work in the closest collaboration with the Department of Public Health of Mexico.

In order to carry through this collaboration to a satisfactory conclusion, it is proposed that the Government of Mexico shall designate or create an appropriate dependency within the Department of Public Health for the carrying through of the health and sanitary projects under reference, as well as for the study of the projects concerning medical preparation and sanitary engineering, upon which the said officials of the Mexican Government and the Chief of the Field Party may agree. It is understood that the Government of Mexico shall furnish the technical personnel and the materials, services, and funds which it may consider necessary.

The respective Governments, or their duly authorized agencies, would give their approval for the actual undertaking of the projects in question, which would be carried through upon certification by the head of the Department of Public Health of Mexico and by the head of the Field Party already mentioned.

Upon completion of the projects entered into, these shall pass to the exclusive ownership of the Government of Mexico.

Accept, Excellency, the reiterated assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

G. S. MESSERSMITH

His Excellency

Señor Licenciado Don EZEQUIEL PADILLA,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
México, D.F.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Ambassador

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
UNITED MEXICAN STATES
MEXICO CITY

No. 344

MÉXICO, D.F., *July 1, 1943*

MR. AMBASSADOR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's very courteous note no. 1426 of June 30, last, in which you are good enough to state:

[For text of U.S. note, see above.]

Thanking Your Excellency most sincerely for having submitted to me for consideration a matter of so much importance, I beg you to be good enough to take note—and so communicate to your Government—that the Government of Mexico, convinced that the results of the investment of these funds will result in benefit for both our countries, accepts very gratefully this new evidence of the spirit of broad cooperation which governs the relations between our peoples.

I renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

E. PADILLA

His Excellency

GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the United States of America,
City.